

methods to detect, identify and quantify pathogens in a wide variety of environments . . ."

The methods for detecting a wide range of bacterial, viral, and parasitic pathogens in or on fresh fruits and vegetables are limited . . ."

This bill would provide additional funds for research and development on test methods to detect *E. coli*, salmonella and other disease-causing microorganisms and pesticide residues in imported food, as it enters the U.S. and before it is distributed to the public. The bill requires FDA to devote resources to developing such tests within three years of the date of enactment. This funding will be in addition to FDA appropriated funds and will be collected through a modest, \$20 per entry, user fee on imported food.

USER FEE FOR IMPORTED FOOD

This legislation also provides for a modest user fee to be paid to the FDA for each entry of foreign food imported into the U.S. It is clear that the current Majority in Congress is not prepared to appropriate funds needed to protect Americans from unsafe food. Funds for the President's food safety initiative were recently zeroed out at the Senate Appropriations Committee and in the House, the President's initiative received only a token funding level.

A user fee on imported food, like the user fee in the Imported Food Safety Act, would ensure that FDA has much needed resources to protect American consumers from unsafe imported food. The proceeds from this user fee would be used to fund much needed research efforts on "real time" test methods for detecting pathogenic contaminants in food and to fund increased FDA efforts to inspect foreign fresh and packaged foods coming into the country.

The U.S. imports approximately 2.7 million entries of food each year that are valued at approximately \$36 billion. The bill provides that a per entry fee of no more than \$20 would be imposed on food imports. This fee is not based on the value of a shipment of imported food. Instead, it is an amount based on the cost of processing and approving food imports, including the cost of sampling and testing.

COUNTRY-OF-ORIGIN LABELING

Finally, this bill requires country-of-origin labeling of all imported foods. Restaurants and other prepared-food service establishments are exempted from complying with the country-of-origin labeling requirement. We often forget that the toughest, and many times the best, regulators are America's consumers. This bill gives consumers information that allows them to make informed choices with respect to the conditions under which the food they buy is produced.

Maintaining public confidence in the safety of the food supply is of paramount importance. People must be confident that the food they purchase and provide for themselves and their families is safe. Country-of-origin labeling will empower consumers, giving them greater information on which to base their food purchasing decisions. This is especially important in view of the now all too frequent outbreaks of food-borne illness.

We need to focus our efforts on eradicating food-borne illness in this country. As our consumption of imported food continues to grow, we must find ways of ensuring that foreign produced food meets our health and safety standards. It simply is no longer acceptable for

government to blame its failures on the increased volume of imports or the fact that detection methods are not available.

FDA must be given the authority, the resources, and the responsibility to ensure that foreign produced foods get to the consumers of this country, if, and only if, they meet U.S. health and safety standards.

The Imported Food Safety Act of 1998 would give FDA, for the first time, the authority, resources, and responsibility it needs to tackle this problem in a meaningful way. This is good public health policy, and the American people deserve no less. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AGREES TO REVIEW ACCUSATIONS AGAINST INDEPENDENT COUNSEL STARR

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, Attorney General Janet Reno's announcement today that allegations of improper conduct by Independent Counsel Ken Starr have been referred to the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility is an appropriate first step. Over the past few days, serious questions concerning the behavior of Mr. Starr and his staff have been raised. On the one hand, a respected journalist, Steven Brill, says that Mr. Starr admitted leaking grand jury information. For his part, Mr. Starr does not deny meeting with reporters on an "off the record basis." Instead, he says that the information he provided during those meetings was not covered by Rule 6(e) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

To resolve this dispute, any investigation must determine two important things. First, exactly what information did Mr. Starr give to reporters during his "off the record" meetings? Second, what are the legal rules that govern what an Independent Counsel can say to a reporter? In his recent letter of complaint to Mr. Brill, the Independent Counsel seems to take the position that Rule 6(e) should be interpreted very narrowly to apply only to disclosures of events or testimony that actually occur in the grand jury room. The law in the District of Columbia Circuit does not support that view.

In its opinion in the Dow Jones case, which was decided in May of this year, the D.C. Circuit wrote that Rule 6(e) reaches "not only what has occurred and what is occurring, but also what is likely to occur. Encompassed within the rule of secrecy are the identities of witnesses or jurors, the substance of testimony as well as actual transcripts, the strategy or direction of the investigation, the deliberations of questions of jurors, and the like."

The Dow Jones case makes clear that Rule 6(e) applies much more broadly than the Independent Counsel has argued in his public statements over the past few days. A review by the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility is a good first step toward resolving the important factual and legal issues that are disputed in this case.

WELCOMING SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT TO MINNESOTA

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored and privileged to submit to the RECORD Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright's insightful and promising commencement address to the University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts on Sunday, June 14, 1998 for Members review. I hope my colleagues will examine its message: America must lead. We must lead in the pursuit of global freedom and democracy, enforcing greater human rights, supporting the nuclear test ban agreement, limiting the proliferation of nuclear weapons, striving to improve the working conditions around the world and protecting earth's natural resources. This address was a powerful statement and was very well received by the graduates and the general public.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS SPRING COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS, JUNE 14, 1998

(By Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright)

Thank you, Vice-President Mondale, for that wonderful introduction. It's great to see you again and thank you for welcoming me to your state.

Regents of the University, President Yudof, Dean Rosenstone, honorary degree recipient Estes, Teacher of the Year Professor Sugnet, U.S. Representative Bruce Vento, Members of the class of 1998 and your families, faculty, and friends, I am delighted to be here and honored that you asked me to share this day with you.

To the parents here this morning, let me say that I understand how you feel. I had three daughters graduate from college and each time the emotions were the same: intense pride—and immense relief.

To the Class of '98, I add my heartfelt congratulations to those of Fritz Mondale. Today is a day to celebrate; it is the payoff for all the late nights in the library and the long hours studying. Graduation is one of the five great milestones in life. The others are birth, marriage, death and the day you finally pay off your student loan.

Now, at last, only one thing still stands between you and your degree. And that is my speech. The bad news is that I am a former professor. Even my soundbites are fifty minutes long.

The good news is that I will not inform you that you had more fun in college than you will ever have again, for that might depress you. I will not place the weight of the world upon your shoulders, for that might intimidate you. And I will not lecture you about your social habits, for that will always be your parents' job.

Instead, I want to discuss with you some of the choices which we as a society and as a nation face. For nations are like people. Each must choose whether to live their lives selfishly and complacently or to act with courage and faith.

We are privileged to reside in a country that, through most of this century, has chosen the latter course, to lead. So that today, we are helping to shape events in every region on every continent in every corner of the world.

We exercise this leadership not out of sentiment, but out of necessity. For we Americans want to live, and we want our children

to live, in peace, prosperity and freedom. But as the new century draws near, we cannot guarantee these blessings for ourselves if others do not have them as well.

Earlier this spring, at the Coast Guard Academy and the University of Maryland, I spoke of some of the specific steps we are taking to advance these goals: to reinvigorate our alliances, for example, and to build a more open and fair system of trade. This is especially important in states like Minnesota, where companies such as Cargill, General Mills, Honeywell, Pillsbury and 3M have made you export leaders.

But today, I want to address a theme that ties the broad goals of our foreign policy together. For I have found as Secretary of State that now, more than ever, the great dividing line in the world is not between East and West, North and South or rich and poor; it is between those paralyzed by the memories and habits of the past, and those energized by prospects for the future.

That is not rhetoric; it is reality.

Consider, for example, nuclear weapons. The recent decisions by India and Pakistan to conduct nuclear tests reflect old thinking about national greatness, and old fears stemming from a boundary dispute that goes back more than five decades.

The Indian Prime Minister justified his action by saying that his country "has the sanction of her own past glory." But if that rationale made any sense, which it does not, other inheritors of past glory, from the modern day Egyptians and Babylonians to the Incas and Aztecs, would be out setting off atomic blasts.

Our message to the leaders of South Asia and nations everywhere is that if you want the world's respect—don't set off nuclear bombs; educate your people.

If you want the world's understanding; don't get into an arms race—use technology to prosper in the global economy.

And if you want the world's help; don't talk about how much you can destroy—show us how much freedom and opportunity and tolerance and respect for human dignity you can create. That is the badge of greatness. And in that quest, every nation that is prepared to help itself can count on the help of the United States.

The bomb blasts in South Asia should serve as a wake-up call to the world. The Cold War has ended, but the danger posed by nuclear weapons obviously has not. We must do all we can to reduce the role that nuclear weapons play and the risks that they entail. And we are.

President Clinton has proposed to Russia a new round of arms reductions that could bring our arsenals down to 80% below Cold War peaks.

We are working hard to ensure that all nuclear materials are securely guarded and safely handled, so that no nukes become loose nukes.

We have made stopping the spread of nuclear and biological weapons and poison gas a top priority in our relations with Russia, China, Ukraine and other key countries.

And last year, the President submitted to the Senate a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty to ban nuclear explosive tests of any size, for any purpose, in any place, for all time. There could be no greater gift to the future. Now, more than ever, India and Pakistan should sign that agreement.

And, now more than ever, the United States Senate should stop shilly-shallying around and approve it for America. Because if we want others to refrain from nuclear tests, and we do; others will want us to promise the same; and we should. On this critical issue, at this perilous time, our leadership should be unambiguous; decisive and strong.

Tragically, one of the recurring themes of the twentieth century and of all history has been the competition by different nations and peoples for land, resources and power. As the new century draws near, our corresponding challenge is to restrain and channel such competitions, so that differences are resolved peacefully and with respect for the legitimate rights of all.

Here again, almost wherever you look, you will see people struggling to reconcile their hopes for the future with their memories of the past. You will see some whose actions and thoughts are dictated almost entirely by old grievances, who are embittered and think only of revenge. They are the prisoners of history.

But you will see others who share the same memories and bear the same scars, but are nevertheless taking courageous action to find common ground with old adversaries. They are the shapers of history. And they are driven by hope and determination to build a future for their children that is better than the past.

You can be proud that the United States is standing shoulder to shoulder with the peacemakers against the bombthrowers; supporting the Good Friday agreement in Northern Ireland; trying to end conflict in the Horn of Africa; working with our partners to stop violence and repression in the Balkans; and striving to overcome setbacks in the quest for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

In each case, America is on the side of those determined not to re-live the past, but rather to learn from it and improve upon it.

That is not international social work, as some suggest. It is smart for America, because we are better off when regional conflicts do not arise, threatening friends, creating economic disruptions and generating refugees. And it is also right to help others avoid unnecessary bloodshed, and enable people to enjoy what President Clinton has called the quiet miracle of a normal life.

The divide between past and future is evident also in attitudes towards the environment where, all too often, we still hear the old conventional wisdom:

"Don't worry, our natural resources are inexhaustible."

"Don't act, environmental protection costs too much."

"Don't get excited, nature can recover on her own from even the worst pollution."

Well, I can't speak for Mother Nature, but not only am I a mother, I am a grandmother of three, and there are times I want to shout from the rooftops, "Wake up."

We are about to enter a century when there will be far more of us around the world, living closer together, consuming more, demanding more, using more and throwing more away.

Isn't it only common sense that we take reasonable steps to restrain population growth and safeguard the health of our air and the cleanliness of our rivers, lakes and coasts? For if we fail to do that, we will deny our children and our children's children the legacy of abundance we ourselves inherited.

That would be a felony against the future. And it is not acceptable—to you, or to me.

We have to recognize, moreover, that effective environmental protection must be a multinational enterprise. It requires global action.

Today, leading scientists agree that greenhouse gases are warming our planet.

Those stuck in the past say:

"Don't worry, let's keep pumping more and more of those gases into our atmosphere. Let's hope the freakish tornadoes and floods we've been experiencing are not related to global climate change. Let's choose to believe that the predicted sea level rise and the

sudden changes in farm production won't happen. Let's pretend that the anticipated increase in heat-related death and disease will not strike—or at least not us."

"Better yet, let's not think about it at all. Let's forget, for example, that the past five months have been the hottest January to May in recorded history. Let's wrap ourselves in denial and bury ourselves like an un-Golden Gopher in the sand."

I have a different view. I don't think America should hide. I think America should lead.

We emit more greenhouse gases than any other country—by far. We should set an example. That is the only way to persuade developing countries such as China, India and Brazil to grow in ways that are environmentally friendly. And that matters because, if they repeat our mistakes, we may find our nation and our world increasingly unlivable. In time, we could face a slow motion environmental Armageddon.

That is why the Clinton Administration is working to ensure that both industrialized and developing countries participate in the effort to control global climate change.

We have adopted an approach that will provide a boon to the new environmental technologies America has developed. We have agreed to targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions that are achievable and fair.

Above all, we are insisting that action be taken now—not twenty years from now—when the costs will be higher and the job much harder. In this historic effort, we will need, and I hope we will have, the wholehearted support of the North Star State.

Finally, the divide between future and past is evident in attitudes around the world toward democracy and human rights.

Some cling to the false sense of order that comes when political dissent is stifled and everyone knows their place. They haul out the old stereotypes and say that, "Well, freedom may work in some places, but the people in such and such a country are not ready; they do not really want it; they do not really need it."

To use a diplomatic term of art, that is balderdash.

When I was still a little girl, my family was driven twice from its home—first by Hitler and then by Stalin. So call me prejudiced. But I believe in freedom.

I believe that, for a society to reach its potential, its people must be free to choose their leaders, publish their thoughts, worship their God and pursue their dreams.

That is a lesson we have learned time and again this century, from South Africa to South Korea and from Central Europe to Central America. It is a lesson we hope will be applied now in Indonesia and Nigeria. In each country, new leaders have an historic opportunity to bring their nation into the democratic fold. If that is their choice, the United States will do all it can to help.

Because if we want the circle of freedom to grow, we must assist those who are doing their best to help themselves by nurturing civil liberties, defeating crime, creating open markets, and building democratic institutions.

Second, we must be willing to speak out for human rights and for religious and political freedoms whether they are under assault in a small country such as Burma or a big country such as China. And if we are told to mind our own business, we must respond that human rights are our business because, as Martin Luther King once said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Third, we must strive to improve working conditions around the world. Because I suspect you are like me. When we buy a blouse or a shirt, we want to know that it was not produced by people who are under-age, under coercion, in prison or denied their basic right to organize.

We Americans cannot and will not accept a global economy that rewards the lowest bidder without regard to standards. We want a future where profits come from perspiration and inspiration, not exploitation.

Fourth, we must do all we can to advance the status of women, because no country can grow strong and free when denied the talents of half its people.

In years past, we have made enormous progress. But today, around the world, terrible abuses are still being committed against women. These include domestic violence, dowry murders, mutilation and forced prostitution. Some say all this is cultural and there's nothing we can do about it. I say it's criminal and we each have an obligation to stop it.

Finally, the United States must continue to lead the world in its support for the international war crimes tribunals, because we believe that the perpetrators of genocide and ethnic cleansing should be held accountable and those who see rape as just another tactic of war must pay for their crimes.

Members of the Class of 1998: Today, you will graduate into a world of accelerating and astonishing change, where technological breakthroughs occur daily, trends may disappear in a week, and events of just a few years ago can seem like ancient history.

But some things have not changed.

The dynamism of the Twin Cities.

The beauty of the Land of Ten Thousand Lakes.

The excellence of this College and University.

The integrity of Walter Mondale.

And the purpose of America.

Fifty years ago, across the river in St. Paul, President Harry Truman spoke of the strength of democracy and of our country. He did not stress the power of our armed forces, though powerful they were.

He did not mention the mighty American economy, though we were responsible for almost half of the world's production at the time. He did not emphasize the vastness of our territory or the size of our population. He spoke instead of a deeper and more profound source of strength.

"Hitler", said President Truman, "learned that efficiency without justice is a vain thing. Democracy does not work that way. Democracy is a matter of faith—a faith in the soul of man—a faith in human rights. That is the kind of faith that moves mountains—that's the kind of faith that hurled the (resources of the) Iron Range at the Nazis."

"Faith gives value to all things," President Truman concluded, "Without faith, the people perish."

This afternoon, at this celebration of warm memory and high expectation, I summon each of you in the name of our country and of all who have worked and sacrificed to build it, to embrace the faith that your courage and your perseverance will make a difference.

And that every life changed by your example; every community enriched by your giving; every problem solved by your diligence; and every barrier to justice brought down by your determination, will ennoble your own life, inspire others, help fulfill the American Dream, and explode outward the boundaries of what is achievable on this earth.

Class of 1998: As I look out among you, all I see are future shapers and history makers. The world is waiting. The new century is yours to build. Go for it. And may God bless you all. Thank you very much.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ORDER OF AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION (AHEPA) CHAPTER NUMBER 78

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to commend the Order of American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (Ahepa), Chapter Number 78, who in conjunction with the Daughters of Penelope, Mentor Chapter Number 81, will be hosting the 68th Hoosier District Number 12 Annual Convention in Merrillville, Indiana this weekend, June 19–21, 1998. On Saturday, June 20, as part of the convention's festivities, the following six outstanding members of the Order of Ahepa, and the Northwest Indiana community will be receiving their prestigious Fifty Year Member Pins: Mr. Spiro Cappony, of Griffith; Mr. James Kallimani, of Gary; Mr. Deno Manolopoulos, of Valparaiso; Mr. Nick Pangere, of Merrillville; Mr. John Trakas, of Crown Point; and Mr. Tony Zerites, of Crown Point.

Each of these six men has dedicated fifty years of service to all facets of the Order of Ahepa, his community, and the noteworthy humanitarian charities and activities to which the Order or Ahepa donates effort, time, and money. These loyal and dedicated individuals share this prestigious honor with approximately fifty-seven additional Chapter 78 members who have already attained Fifty Year Member status.

The Order of Ahepa is an international fraternal order with chapters in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Bahamas Islands. It was founded in 1922 in Atlanta, Georgia, to help immigrants from Europe, especially Greece, assimilate into the American way of life. It taught the new arrivals the customs and language, and helped them to become good, productive citizens in their new, adopted country. Today, the Order of Ahepa is still concerned with aiding immigrants, as well as monitoring the current events in Greece, becoming involved with the region's community, and supporting the aging members of the Northwest Indiana Greek community. Nationally, the Order of Ahepa works with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to build and maintain senior citizen apartments. Chapter 78 of the Order of Ahepa, based in Merrillville, is quite proud of the three 50-unit buildings that it maintains in conjunction with HUD and the Town Board of Merrillville. Indeed, I commend the Order of Ahepa for providing a safe, clean living environment for area seniors.

Besides the outstanding senior housing program, Chapter 78 of the Order of Ahepa supports many other charitable organizations, including food pantries at the St. Constantine Cathedral in Merrillville and another one in Hobart, and St. Basil's Academy in Boston, Massachusetts. Besides helping other charitable organizations, the local Order of Ahepa Chapter directly helps such groups as Hearing Impaired Children in the Catholic Diocese of Gary; the Merrillville and Hobart Police Departments; the Hobart Fire Department's school

fire safety awareness programs; the Greek Orthodox Cathedral; Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Ministry to the Physically and Mentally Challenged; and Holy Cross College in Boston.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me saluting Spiro Cappony, James Kallimani, Deno Manolopoulos, Nick Pangere, John Trakas, and Tony Zerites, of the Chapter 78 Order of Ahepa, for their distinguished service, dedication, and leadership. Through their hard work and commitment, they have furthered the goals of the Order of Ahepa in bringing together the members of the Greek community for the betterment of everyone in Northwest Indiana.

IN HONOR OF LA SAGRADA FAMILIA PARISH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor La Sagrada Familia Parish, which is celebrating its dedication on June 21.

The Hispanic Catholic community of Cleveland has wanted a parish of its own since the early 1950s. At that point there were at least five different parishes that Spanish speaking people attended. By the early 1970s the Hispanic Catholic community had grown so large that it needed its own parish. In 1973, a small group began with a special service at St. Stephen's Church. Eventually developed into the community of San Juan Bautista. There were still many people without a parish, however, so in 1980 the idea for La Sagrada Familia Parish began. It took eighteen years, but the dream is now a reality. On June 21 the dedication ceremony will take place.

To understand the magnitude of the accomplishment, we must recognize the collective contribution of this congregation: Persistence, a dedication to hard work, a devotion to the community, and a commitment to progress. The La Sagrada Familia Parish has demonstrated that vision, combined with spirit, leads to boundless achievement.

The Hispanic Catholic community has added a spirit of diversity and tradition to the neighborhood of the near west side. Always willing to help others, the community has made a difference, taking advantage of resources of time and caring to improve the lot of its neighbors in need. The community has waited for a long time for a parish of its own, and with La Sagrada Familia, the dream is accomplished, the prayers have been answered. The dedication of La Sagrada Familia Parish serves as a reminder of the community's devotion to the service of others. The dedication of this church should be a source of pride for all of Cleveland's Hispanic Catholic community.

La Sagrada Familia Parish is the product of years of planning, fund-raising, and hard work. This is a proud moment for Cleveland and its Hispanic Catholic community. My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating this parish and in wishing parishioners many happy years in their new home.